



THE HUNGER GAMES
CATCHING FIRE

Discuss...

Fear/Emotions

- ♥ Katniss' chosen skill was hanging a dummy with the old game maker's name written on it (Scene 12). How do you balance acting in a way that is socially acceptable with your true feelings? Why is it important to monitor our emotions?

Hope

- ♥ As Katniss is rising up the shoot to the game field, guards arrive and kill Cinna. This is done as a way to crush her spirits (Scene 16). What things might bring us despair or wear us down and cause us to lose hope and happiness?

Support Systems

- ♥ During his speech to District 11, Peeta says, "Our lives are not just measured in years...they are measured in the lives of people we touch around us" (Scene 4). How can we live each day in such a way that we have a positive influence on those around us? Who is someone that has touched your life? What can you do to help others get to where they want to be in life? How have others helped you do the same?
- ♥ Effie insists that they each have a gold token of some kind to represent that they are a team (Scene 10, 15). What are the benefits of working together as a team?

Survival/Safety/Security

- ♥ Katniss asks Haymitch to protect them from President Snow's threats (Scene 4). What are things we want to protect our relationships from? How do we successfully do this?
- ♥ All of the victors are angry and will do anything to stop the games, and Haymitch encourages Katniss to do the same (Scene 13). Is it okay to say things that may not be true, just to save yourself or to please others? How can putting on an act affect relationships?

Friendship

- ♥ After threatening her and her family, President Snow says that he just wants to be friends (Scene 2). How can you tell if a friendship is real or fake? (see also Scene 11). What does true friendship look like? What are some barriers that keep us from making friends?

Peer Pressure/Acceptance/Putting on an Act

- ♥ All of the victors from previous years have had lots of time to get to know each other, so Peeta and Katniss are considered outsiders (Scene 10). How does it feel to be an outsider? How can you help to include/befriend those who might be considered outsiders?

Stumbling Blocks/Challenges/Enemies

- ♥ Part of preparing for the Hunger Games is getting to know the "enemy" or other opponents (Scene 10). How can knowing the enemies of relationships help us to keep our relationships safe?

Discuss...

Love

- Gale asks Katniss, “Do you love me?” to which she responds, “You know how I feel about you.” (Scene 6) Why is it important to actually express our feelings to others and not just assume they know how you feel?
- Peeta offers to watch Gale while Katniss goes out to get more snow (Scene 7). Why is it important to sometimes put aside your own feelings for the best of others/to help others? What are some situations where you might need to forgo your own feelings?
- After the announcement about the 75th Hunger Games has been made, Katniss eventually goes to see Haymitch and insists that he do something to save Peeta. Peeta had already been there doing the same for her, and Haymitch comments, “You could live 100 lifetimes and never deserve that boy.” (Scene 8) What does it mean to deserve someone? How can we become deserving of the kind of person we want to be with?
- Katniss thinks that she’s lost Peeta when he runs into the force field. In response to her reaction, President Snow’s granddaughter comments, “Someday I want to love someone that much.” (Scene 16) How would almost losing the person you loved more than anything make you act or treat them differently?
- Johanna comments that love is weird (Scene 22). What makes love seem so weird or complicated? Do we make it more complicated than it needs to be sometimes? Can these things be avoided? If so, how?

Perspective

- On the train, Peeta tells Katniss to “stop looking at me like I’m wounded, then I can quit acting like it.” (Scene 3) How can being over-protective of those we care about limit them? How can our actions, or how we perceive and treat others, affect them (both positively and negatively)?
- Haymitch tells Katniss and Peeta that their job is to be a distraction so the people forget what the real problems are (Scene 4). Can distractions from problems be a good thing? What are examples of things that can distract us? What are the consequences of avoiding problems by focusing on these distractions?
- During his first encounter with Katniss, Finnick says, “If we see something sweet, we better grab it,” implying that they should enjoy life while they can because pretty soon only one of them would be alive (Scene 10). What are the consequences of living in the moment? When can it be a good thing? When can it be a bad thing?
- Normal fog isn’t poisonous, but the kind that chases them the first night is (Scene 18). What are things that may be deceiving in relationships? What might cause us to overlook seemingly harmful things or write them off as no big deal?

